



We apologize for the delay in our newsletters, things have been hectic in this office. Much has happened since the last newsletter. This office would also like to welcome Tsgt Shannon Pena as the new AGR Benefits Specialist.

Retirement

OCTOBER

LTC Daniel Dent, WAATS
CW5 Charles Sellers, OSA
SFC Robert Taylor, Det 4 STARC
SSG Reina McMillon, 2222nd

NOVEMBER

SFC Danny Germano, Det 7 STARC

DECEMBER

SFC Michael Soto, Det 4 STARC

JANUARY

COL James Braman, WAATS
CSM Kent Gabrielson, 98th TC
SFC George Aquilar, WAATS
SGT Robert Ellmer, HQ STARC

FEBRUARY

CW5 William Karins, HQ STARC
SFC Gregory Nemeth, 98th TC
SFC Elias Olivas, WAATS

RESIGNATIONS

SFC James Carroll, Det 4 STARC
SSG Troy Quackenbush, 91st CST
SGT Kelly Fees, 2220th TC
SGT Kamila Scott, 153rd FA
SGT Bert Sugden, Det 1 2220th TC
SGT Michael Wilson, HQ 1/180th FA

NEW HIRES

LTC Felica French, HQ STARC (-)
MAJ Jerry Madison, HQ 2/98th
CPT Russell Payne, 91st CST
CPT Julie Stonerod, 91st CST
CW3 Michael Overleas, WAATS
CW2 Daniel Toporek, WAATS
MSG James Petruzzi, HQ STARC (-)
SFC Athanasios Paletsos, 416th ATC
SSG Jeffrey Bormann, 356th Sig
SSG David Worden, 159th Fin Det
SGT Laura Apley, 153rd FA
SGT James Dillinger, HQ 1/180th FA

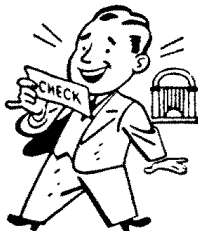
MILPAY Q & A

Question: I extended 2 months ago and my ETS date has not been changed on my LES. Why does it take so long for my ETS date to change?

Answer: It will take about 3 weeks after a soldier's ETS to change in DFAS. The new ETS will not show up until the next month after your current ETS. For example, a soldier's ETS date is 15 Jul 01, the new ETS date will post EOM August.

Question: I sold leave and my ETS changed, but I did not get my leave paid, whats up?

Answer: When you sell leave, it takes an additional 25 days after the date of reenlistment to pay out. This may or may not fall during the same pay period. DFAS is in control and there is nothing that MILPAY can do about it.



SPECIAL LEAVE ACCRUAL FOR ALL MILITARY MEMBERS

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (ASD) Force Management Policy (FMP) signed an authorization for special leave accrual (SLA) for military members that requires no action of field commanders. No lists nor approval documents need to be completed. All leaves that were actually taken through September 30, 2001 must be processed through the system using the DA Form 31. The soldiers must take their SLA no later than 30 Sep 02. SLA not taken will be considered lost on 1 Oct 02. This was the direction of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (ASD) (FMP) Mr Charles Abell.

Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) Indianapolis will complete an accountability of leave during Nov 1 to allow the processing of all fiscal year (FY) 01 leaves to occur. The total amount of SLA is only 20 days (11 - 30 Sep 01). This only applies to leave in excess of the maximum 60 days allowed for annual leave carry over for soldiers that have an excess of 20 days. These days are considered lost as they could not have taken this leave during the period, even if this tragedy had not occurred. If the soldier has more than 60 days leave on Oct 01, the maximum leave that could be carried forward is 80 days.

NEW SGLV COVERAGE UPDATE

Mr. Tom Tower, OSD-P&R, sent the message below reference the SGLI Family Coverage :

"The VA has approved an extension of the grace period to Dec 31, 2001, to elect reduced or declined coverage for spouse.

Their approval notes that this is a "grace" period to allow sufficient time to make an election that spousal coverage is not warranted.

Further, given that this is an election that voids initial coverage back to November 1, an election made during Nov or Dec 2001 will be treated as if it was tendered prior to November 1, 2001. Thus if the member submits a declination on Nov 15 and the spouse dies on Nov 20, no insurance is in effect to cover that spouse's death."

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(703) 607-5852 (FAX)

Information on dependant SGLV:
www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgli/sglifam.htm

CSB/REDUX NOTIFICATION, COUNSELING AND ELECTION PROCEDURES

Many of you that are eligible should have noticed a message in the remarks section of your LES that had a "DIEMS" date, and stated that if your DIEMS is correct, and it is after 1 Jul 86, you may be eligible to elect a \$30K career status bonus. See <http://www.odcsper.army.mil/retire> for more information

Uniserve website:
<http://www.tsp.gov/uniserv/index.html>

DOD Military Pay Website:
<http://pay2000.dtic.mil>
(changing to <http://militarypay.dtic.mil>)

AR-PERSCOM website:
<http://www.2xcitizen.usar.army.mil>

This message provides implementing procedures for determining eligibility, notification, counseling, and election of the career status bonus (CSB)/REDUX retired pay option (CSB/REDUX) enacted by PL 106-65, 5 Oct 99.



MORE REDUX INFORMATION

SUBJECT: Correction to Career Status Bonus(CSB)/REDUX Message 01-143

1. Reference: MILPER Message 01-143, 11 April 2001, subject: CSB/REDUX/DEIMS Notification, Counseling & Election Procedures

2. MILPER Message 01-143, Paragraph 7 incorrectly states, "the CSB would be paid by DFAS no later than 60 days after the first of the month following the (CSB/REDUX) election effective date." This should have read "no later than the first month that begins on or after the date that is 60 days after the election is effective.

Example: If a member's CSB/REDUX election becomes effective on 10 October 2001, the CSB must be paid no later than 31 January 2002. The latter date is determined as follows: the date that is 60 days after the effective date of the election is 9 December 2001, so the first month that begins on or after that date is January 2002 -- the member must be paid no later than the end of January 2002.

3. Any CSB/REDUX election received before the member's 15th active duty anniversary becomes "effective" on the member's 15th active duty anniversary. Any CSB/REDUX election received after the member's 15th active duty anniversary is "effective" on the date received.

4. All members must be given six months from the official date of notification to make their election. This is identified on the Career Status Bonus Election form, DD Form 2839, Block 6. Members who are notified after their 14 and 1/2-year of active duty and choose to return their election before their 15th year will have the election become effective the 15th year.

Example: Member completes 14 years and six months of active duty on 10 June 2001. Ideally, the member will receive notification by then, but the member isn't

notified until 10 October 2001 (as shown in Block 6, DD Form 2839), four months late. The member has until 9 April 2002 (six months from date of notification) to return the election. But, if the member chooses to return the form early and it is received before 9 December 2001 (the member's 15th active duty anniversary), the election becomes effective on the 15th active duty anniversary. If the member returns the election after 9 December 2001, the election is effective on date received, but no later than six months from date of notification.

Vincennes University Classes

Would you like to earn more promotion points? The promotion boards are coming up again and taking classes with Vincennes University is a great way to earn college credits and points on the board.

Vincennes University is an accredited institution where you are able to receive civilian credit hours for your military experiences. All you have to do is attend one class to do so. Vincennes University will transfer all military experiences plus give you one credit hour for attending the class and include them on a transcript. The next class is Leadership and Management and is being held 12 -13 Jan 02. The cost for National Guard members is \$22.50 which can be put in for as a state education reimbursement also. The class is held from 0800-1600 both days and is in civilian clothes. There is a minimum of 15 persons to have the class so do not wait to put in your application (DA Form 2171). Please stop by the State Education Services Office or call SPC Martha Robles at 602-267-2445 for more information.



ENROLLING IN THE TRICARE DENTAL PROGRAM (TDP)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: If you find that your allotment for dental coverage was not on your last LES, you will probably need to re-enroll. This happens because your extension was not processed within a 30 day window. Please read the following instructions regarding enrollment::

To enroll in the TDP, the sponsor must complete a TDP Enrollment Form. TDP enrollment applications are available from Health Benefits Advisors, Dental Treatment Facilities, or Uniformed Service Personnel Offices. Sponsors may also download and print a copy of the enrollment form from the website at www.ucci.com or call 1-888-622-2256. Additionally, beginning February 1, 2001 individuals with Internet access may enroll online with a credit card.

In addition to the completed reenrollment form, sponsors must include an initial payment equal to his or her portion of one month's premium. Payment can be made by check, money order, Master Card or Visa. The enrollment form and payment should be submitted to the address on the back of the form.

If TDP receives the completed TDP Enrollment Form (and payment) by the 20th of the month, coverage is effective the first day of the month following receipt. However, if the application is received after the 20th, enrollment may not be effective until the first day of the second month.

It is recommended that the sponsor contact UCCI's customer service department by telephone to confirm coverage before receiving initial treatment.

Effective February 1, 2001 all inquiries concerning enrollment in the TRICARE Dental Program are to be referred to United Concordia Companies Incorporated (UCCI) at 1-888-622-2256. Dental issues not involving enrollment should be addressed to United Concordia's website at <http://www.ucci.com> or at

1-800-866-8499. All dental error resolution issues under this new program should be directed to UCCI. When UCCI encounters a DEER/RAPIDS enrollment inconsistency, they will direct the soldier to visit their local RAPIDS site to correct DEERS.

Every effort should be made to assist the soldier. If the RAPIDS site representative is unable to correct the problem through DEERS/RAPIDS, they (not the soldier) can contact the DEERS/RAPIDS Project Office at telephone number: (703) 325-9590/4529/4525/8941 or DSN:221-9590/4529/4525/8941 or Email: Mr. Jackson: jacks0e0@hoffman.army.mil - Mrs. Hines: hinesj@hoffman.army.mil.

Special Note: There has recently been changes to some of the dental covered services offered. It is a good idea to visit the UCCI website and download the new benefits booklet at:

<http://www.ucci.com/tdp/TDPBenefitBooklet.pdf>



'TOOL KIT' FOR RESERVE, ACTIVE DUTY FAMILY USE

Servicemembers being called up for active service or those deploying have a new tool kit to help their families, a DoD reserve affairs official said. According to the American Forces Press Service, the Guard and Reserve Family Readiness Programs Toolkit is available as a printed product as well as online at www.defenselink.mil/ra/family/toolkit/. This standardized pre-deployment and mobilization handbook aids commanders, members, family members and family program directors or managers in preparing units for the separations that take place during mobilization and deployment. President Bush's September 14 order calling up to 50,000 reservists to

active duty means the tools could be a vast help to deploying service members responding to the terrorist threats. Though aimed at reserve component members, active duty servicemembers should also find the information helpful. A related Website is the Guard and Reserve Family Readiness Schedule of Events at www.defenselink.mil/ra/calendar/. This calendar is designed to provide places for family readiness training across the services. Those interested can search the calendar for training opportunities near them.

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UPDATE ON THE THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN

The Proposed Rules for the Uniformed Services Thrift Savings Plan (UNISERV) published in the Federal Register, Vol. 66, No. 84, Tuesday, 1 May 2001, extend the ending date of the initial UNISERV open enrollment period from 8 December 2001, as previously reported, to 31 January 2002. If the rules are adopted, the initial UNISERV enrollment period for uniformed services members will run from 9 October 2001 through 31 January 2002. UNISERV contributions based on a UNISERV election made on or before 31 December 2001 will be deducted from pay the first full pay period of January 2002; UNISERV elections made in January 2002 will be effective during the first full pay period after the election is received. For UNISERV information, go to <http://www.tsp.gov/uniserv/index.html>.

To see the proposed rules, go to <http://www.access.gpo.gov>. Click on: "GPO Access"; "Federal Register"; "Attn: New Federal Register Browse Feature"; "Browse back issues of Federal Register Table of Contents - 2001." Then scroll down to "Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board."

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NOTE: This is a plain text version of a web page. If your mail program did not properly format this information, current News Articles are online at
<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/#News>

<http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/pentagon/>

<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/subscribe.html>

FREE ADMISSION FOR ARMED FORCES

Anheuser-Busch is recognizing Americas Hero's (Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Workers and members of the U.S. Armed Forces to include National Guard and Reserves:

From 5 Oct 01 through balance of 2001, personnel identified above and their immediate family members will receive free admission to the following theme parks:

Sea World-Orlando
Sea World-San Diego
Busch Garden-Tampa

Same offer applies to above personnel for weekends through the end of their seasons:

Sea World-San Antonio
Busch Gardens-Williamsburg
Sesame Place
Adventure Island

This does not include Water Country or Discovery Cave. Will have to show current identification card. On the first visits each hero will receive a customized passport valid for free unlimited admission everyday through Dec 2001. Guests will receive complimentary admission of their first

visit and 25% valid discount for rest of the year."

AGR HANDBOOK

If you are new to the AGR program or been around a while there is a lot of valuable information in the AGR Handbook, and it is available by email or it can be downloaded from the HRO website at <http://www.azng.com/hro>



AGR OFFICE PHONE LISTING

**Our office symbol is AZAA-HR-A
Vacant**

**AGR Manager at 602-267-2485
SFC Judy Carlson**

**AGR Personnel SGT at 602-267-2948
Tsrgt Shannon Pena**

Military Personnel Spec 602-267-2453



USEFUL WEBSITES

Service members who are interested in additional discounts available for military personnel should visit the Military Discounts page at Military.com. Discounts are listed in the areas of transportation, lodging, entertainment and more. The listing can be found at:

<http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourceSubmittedFileView?ESRC=mr.nl&file=discounts.htm>

Armed Forces Vacation Club:

http://www.afvclub.com/policies_proc.asp#4

Having problems finding a provider for your dependants. Check out the TRIWEST website at:

<http://www.triwest.com>

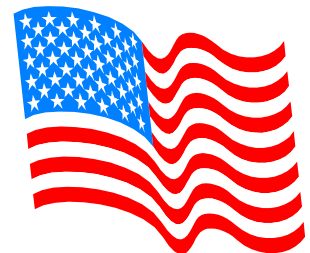
LAFB Locator (photo lab, commissary, etc.), also the site for medical and dental appointments and phone numbers:

http://www.enlisted.com/be/AZ_LUK E_AFB /AZ_LUKE_AFB .shtml

Interested in a Title 10 position at National Guard Bureau. Look for the latest ARNG Title 10 AGR information on the NGB home page at:

<http://www.arng.ngb.army.mil>

**Click on the T under quick search and look for Title 10 positions and T-10 application procedures.



On November 11th our nation pauses on Veterans Day to honor those American men and women who served our country in uniform. This year, two short months after suffering the most horrific act of war in our country's history, it is only right that we pay tribute to those whose sacrifices and selfless service purchased for us the privileges of freedom, democracy, and unmatched opportunity that we enjoy in the United States, the greatest country on Earth!!!

**HAPPY VETERAN'S
DAY!!!**